

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
BP Whiting Crude Release - Removal Polrep
Initial Removal Polrep

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

POLREP #1
Initial Polrep
BP Whiting Crude Release
Whiting, IN
Latitude: 41.6763040 Longitude: -87.4757741
Site:

To: Michelle Wells, US CG
Jason El-Zein, EPA
Sam Borries, EPA

From: Mike Beslow, OSC
Steve Faryan, OSC

Date: 3/25/2014

Reporting Period: 3/24 - 3/25

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	z5nb	Contract Number:
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:

Response Authority:	OPA		Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP		Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL		Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	3/24/2014		Start Date:	3/24/2014
Demo Date:			Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:			RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:			State Notification:	
FPN#:	E14512		Reimbursable Account #:	
1.1.1 Incident Category				
Response to Oil Release at the BP Whiting Refinery				
1.1.2 Site Description				
BP Whiting Refinery located on the shores of Lake Michigan in Whiting, Indiana. Crude Oil was released from a NPDES permitted outfall of the BP Whiting Refinery Water Treatment Plant. The Crude originated at the 12 pipe cooling system which is on the facility and south of the railtracks that separate the refinery				

from the water treatment plant

1.1.2.1 Location

BP Whiting Refinery
2815 Indianapolis Blvd
Whiting, In. 46394

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Crude oil discharge to Lake Michigan from the BP Whiting Refinery in Whiting, Indiana, and the remaining oil in the #6 separator

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal

Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Result

BP reported the release of crude oil to USEPA via the National Response Center at approximately 1700 on March 24, 2014.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

Crude Oil originating at the 12 pipe area cooling system flowed to the waste water treatment plant and into the #6 oil water separator. The crude was discovered by an electronic sensor in the #6 oil water separator at approximately 4.30 PM on March 24, 2014. The # 6 oil water separator unit became oversaturated with oil, and began discharging directly to Lake Michigan via the permitted NPDES outfall on BP property. The oil was detected by a electronic sensor in the waste water treatment plant around 4 PM. BP immediately deployed 1000 feet of boom around the discharge that was in place by 6pm. BP immediately began vac truck operations to remove the oil from the separator unit. When OSC Beslow arrived on scene at approximately 9pm, Mar 24, there was no visible discharge of oil from the NPDES permitted outfall to the lake. Oil was observed in the water behind the

boom and recovery operations were being conducted in the oil water separator. Boom was deployed accross the water to contain the oil sheen, and 12 vacuum trucks were operating in both the #6 separator, and on the lake shore.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

BP has activated their contractor MSRC and 100 personnel are on scene with 12 vacuum trucks. A large skimmer vessel has been mobilized and is staged on the property. Several thousand feet of hard boom and sorbent boom are on scene and deployed to the water. Several thousand feet of boom, response boats, skimmers, sorbents and poms are in the staging area and ready to be deployed if necessary.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

BP has been issued a Federal Notice of Interest

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

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2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Continue 24 hour oil response activities to remediate oil, tar balls on the beach, oiled rocks and remove oil from the oil water seperator. Currently EPA has a 24 hour presence. As new data is evaluated, EPA will reevaluate the operational period.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Night crews will monitor and clean up the beach. Crews will continue to skim the oil

from the #6 oil water seperator.				
2.2.1.2 Next Steps				
Crews will reposition the hard boom in the water and continue cleaning the beach of tar and oil. Crews will investigate submerged oil at the outfall and continue to remove tar patties and tar balls along the beach. SCAT crews will assess the shoreline beginning the morning of March 26, 2014.				
2.2.2 Issues				
High waves and wind has blown some of the boom deployed in the water to the shoreline. Absorbents are being maintained at the #6 separator through the evening.				
2.3 Logistics Section				
No information available at this time.				
2.4 Finance Section				
2.4.1 Narrative				
FPN E14512 Whiting Refinery has been opened with the USCG NPFC for \$25,000				
Estimated Costs	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
TAT/START	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	100.00%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct	\$11,963.00	\$0.00	\$11,963.00	100.00%
USEPA - InDirect	\$3,037.00	\$0.00	\$3,037.00	100.00%

	0		0	
Total Site Costs	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	100.00 %

*** The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.**

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

Safety is being staffed by BP Whiting Refinery

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

Liason is being staffed by BP Whiting Refinery

2.5.3 Information Officer

Megan McSeveny has been on scene reporting to the USEPA Regional Office. She is working with representatives from the USCG and BP. On Site media interviews have been conducted by USEPA and USCG with local news channels.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

USEPA, USCG, BP and IDEM are in Unified Command

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

City of Whiting, City of Hammond, City of East Chicago,

4. Personnel On Site

2: START Weston
3 : USEPA Personnel
3 USCG Personnel

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

6.2 Reporting Schedule

Crews are working 12 hours shifts and 24 hour operations. POLREPS will be issued daily

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.